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PTO/SB/30 (08-00) Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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OCT 0 7 2003 CONTINUED EXAMINATION (F TRANSMITTAL

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| ion of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. | | | | |
|---|------------------------|------------|--|--|
| Application Number | 09/176,274 | 本20 | | |
| Filing Date | October 21, 1998 | Bu | | |
| First Named Inventor | Hideaki Ohshima et al. | | | |
| Group Art Unit | 2672 | | | |
| Examiner Name | J. Brier | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 00862.002492 | | | |

| Submiss | ion required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.1 | 14 | | |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| a. X | Previously submitted | | | |
| i. ii. iii. | (Any unentered amendment(s) refe |)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.11 rred to above will be entered). the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief | | |
| b. 🗓 | Enclosed | | | RECEIVE |
| i. ii. iii. iv. | Amendment/Reply Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) Information Disclosure State Other Petition and fee (\$1 | ement (IDS) 110) for one-month extension | on of time | OCT 0 9 2003 Technology Center 2 |
| 2. Miscella | | 110) for one-month extensi | on or and | center 2 |
| b. | months. Other The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is r The Director is hereby authorized Deposit Account No. 06-1205 X RCE fee required under 37 Extension of time fee (37 C. Other Checks in the amount of \$770.00 Payment by credit card (Form PTO- | C.F.R. § 1.17(e) F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) O (RCE) and \$110.00 (exte | e RCE is filed. the following fees, or credit | |
| С | | E OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR A | GENT REQUIRED | |
| Name (<i>Print/Ty</i>) | | | n No. (Attorney/Agent) | 40,595 |
| Signature | | Date | October | 6, 2003 |
| hereby certify tha | at this correspondence is being deposited with the correspondence is being deposited with the commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexander (1997). | ERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANS th the United States Postal Service wile exandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile Date | th sufficient postage as first class ma | ail in an envelope addressed to: rademark Office on: |